



Atty. Dkt. No. 086142-0494

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P. Weller  
01/21/04

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant:** Hikaru KAMEYOSHI et al.

**Title:** SEAT BELT RETRACTOR

**Appl. No.:** 09/988,048

**Filing Date:** 11/16/2001

**Examiner:** Sang K. Kim

**Art Unit:** 3654

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.56**

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

**RECEIVED**

**JAN 13 2004**

**GROUP 3600**

**Sir:**

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicants in order to comply with Applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.

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**TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign search report, and within 30 days of receipt.

**RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

Any document listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 was cited as being relevant during the prosecution of the corresponding European application. A copy of the European Search Report is attached setting forth the portion of each document considered relevant by the examiner. English translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign-language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP§609). English language abstracts are attached.

Applicants respectfully request that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 9, 2004

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